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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/653,787	09/03/2003	James Clough	200308676-1	6929

22879 7590 12/07/2007
HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY
P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

HUSSAIN, TAUQIR

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2152

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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12/07/2007

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

JERRY.SHORMA@HP.COM
mkraft@hp.com
ipa.mail@hp.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/653,787	Applicant(s) CLOUGH ET AL.	
	Examiner Tauqir Hussain	Art Unit 2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,7,9,13,18,23,28,29,33 and 34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,7,9,13,18,23,28,29,33 and 34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is in response to amendment /reconsideration filed on 10/29/2007, the amendment/reconsideration has been considered. Claims, 1, 7, 13, 18, 23, 29, 33 and 34 have been amended and therefore claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 18, 23, 28-29 and 33-34 are pending for examination, the rejection cited as stated below.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "**determining** if the identified port address is listed by the policy data", "the use data being based on the billing information for a particular venue station", "usable to charge a fee for acting on the network request" must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

4. As to claims 13 and 18, In the light of specification on page 6, [0025], applicant has provided that applicant intends the medium to include transmission media "infrared" as such claim is drawn to a form of signal and light waves. Carrier waves or signal does not fall into one of the four categories of invention and therefore, claims 9-16 is not statutory. Signal is not a series of steps or acts and thus is not a process. Signal is not a physical article or object and such is not a machine or manufacture. Signal is not a combination of substances and therefore, not a composition of matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 18, 23, 28, 29, 33 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. (Pub. No.: US 2003/0105643 A1), hereinafter "Chen" in view of Yoshimura et al. (Pub. No.: US 2003/0069972 A1), hereinafter "Yoshimura".

6. As to claims 1,13,23,33, Chen discloses, communicating with the network infrastructure to identify a network address from which the network request originated (Chen, Fig.5, [0080, lines 24-27], where hotel server knowing the data port from which IP request came in), the network address being a port address through which a

particular one of the plurality of venue stations is connected to the network infrastructure (Chen, [0080], where port addresses are known to the server by means of connected via hub or router); and

accessing policy data, the policy data being electronic data listing a port address and billing information for each authorized venue station (Chen, Fig.5, step-S503, [0084], where queries performed to hotel's database and room key information corresponding to the IP address mapped against the specific data port is obtained);

determining if the identified port address is listed by the policy data (Chen, Fig.6, step-s604, [0089], where determination is made by querying the data warehouse server to find corresponding information); and

accepting the network request and reporting use data only upon a determination that the identified port address for the particular one of the plurality of venue station is listed as a port address for an authorized venue station (Chen, Fig.6, step-s611 [0089], where upon determining no matching data found failure message is sent to the server 18 and alternately print job is processed which means request has been accepted), the use data being based on the billing information for the particular venue station and usable to charge a fee for acting on the network request (Chen, Fig.6, [0094], where accounting software contained within hotel server calculate the charge for printing operation and bill the guest accordingly using above discussed identification information).

Chen however is silent on disclosing explicitly, "port address being a port of hub or router".

Yoshimura however discloses, "port address being a port of hub or router" (Yoshimura, Fig.6, [0158], where users can be identified by port address of the VPN router they connected to).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Yoshimura "port address being a port of the hub or router" with the teachings of Chen in order to provide a control program on a data center managing server creates a VLAN configuration table so as to allocate a user-dedicated VLAN including plural network switches for each user company, thereby configuring the ports of a load balancer and network switches allocated to a user to the user-dedicated VLAN.

7. As to claims 7,18,29,34, Cherry discloses, receiving a print request routed through a network infrastructure (Chen, Fig.6, [0087],where printing process is shown on hotel network infrastructure), the request being received from one of a plurality of authorized venue stations connected to the network infrastructure (Chen, Fig.6, [0089], where determination is made if the requested venue is an authorized venue) ;

communicating with the network infrastructure to identify a network address from which the print request originated (Chen, [0080], where server knows the data port from which message has been originated) the network being a port address through which a particular one of the plurality of venue stations is connected to the network infrastructure (Chen, [0080], where port addresses are know to the server by means of connected via hub or router);

accessing policy data, the policy data being electronic data listing a port address and billing information for each authorized venue station (Chen, Fig.5, step-S503, [0084], where queries performed to hotel's database and room key information corresponding to the IP address mapped against the specific data port is obtained);

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Yoshimura however discloses, "port address being a port of hub or router" (Yoshimura, Fig.6, [0158], where users can be identified by port address of the VPN router they connected to). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Yoshimura

“port address being a port of the hub or router” with the teachings of Chen in order to provide a control program on a data center managing server creates a VLAN configuration table so as to allocate a user-dedicated VLAN including plural network switches for each user company, thereby configuring the ports of a load balancer and network switches allocated to a user to the user-dedicated VLAN.

8. As to claim 3, Chen and Yoshimura disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 1, including, wherein the acts of communicating and accepting are performed by the network device (Chen, Fig.5, Step-s501, where hotel server is a network device and accepts or rejects the originated requests from clients or venue stations).

9. As to claims 9, Chen and Yoshimura disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 7, including, wherein the acts of receiving, communicating, and determining are all performed by a printing device responsible for acting on the print request (Chen, Fig.4, element-22, where printer interface shares the same system bus along with key reader and network interface).

10. As to claim 28, Chen and Yoshimura disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 23, including, wherein the source detector and the request manager are embedded in a network device (Chen, Fig.5, step-S501, [0080], where hotel server detects the request for an IP).

Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references, as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in its entirety as potentially teaching of all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tauqir Hussain whose telephone number is 571-270-1247. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571 272 3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

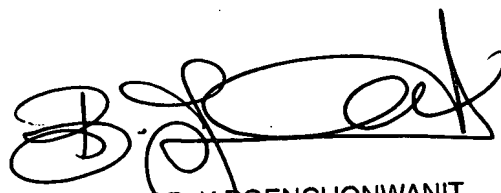
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information
system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TH
11/30/2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Jaroenchonwanit', written over a horizontal line.

BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

12/4/7

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

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Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "determining if the identified port address is listed by the policy data", "the use data being based on the billing information for a particular venue station", "usable to charge a fee for acting on the network request" must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Targis, Preamble normally shouldn't be given patentable weight, unless it gives life and vitality to the claim. When you address preamble with citation, you are opening the door for applicant's arguments. Discuss with me.

3. Claims ~~1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 18, 23, 28, 29, 33~~ and ~~34~~ are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. (Pub. No.: US 2003/0105643 A1), hereinafter "Chen" in view of Yoshimura et al. (Pub. No.: US 2003/0069972 A1), hereinafter "Yoshimura".

4. As to claims 1, 13, 23, 33, Cherry discloses, authorizing a network request, the request routed through a network infrastructure to a network device (Chen, Fig. 1, Abstract) from one of a plurality of authorized and unauthorized venue stations connected to the network infrastructure (Chen, Fig. 1, [0023], where hotel room has a laptop connected home office device connected via internet as authorized and unauthorized venue stations), comprising:

communicating with the network infrastructure to identify a network address from which the network request originated (Chen, Fig. 5, [0080, lines 24-27], where hotel server knowing the data port from which IP request came in), the network address being a port address through which a particular one of the plurality of venue stations is connected to the network infrastructure (Chen, [0080], where port addresses are known to the server by means of connected via hub or router); and

accessing policy data, the policy data being electronic data listing a port address and billing information for each authorized venue station (Chen, Fig. 5, step-S503, [0084], where queries performed to hotel's database and room key information corresponding to the IP address mapped against the specific data port is obtained);

determining if the identified port address is listed by the policy data (Chen, Fig.6, step-s604, [0089], where determination is made by querying the data warehouse server to find corresponding information); and

accepting the network request and reporting use data only upon a determination that the identified port address for the particular one of the plurality of venue station is listed as a port address for an authorized venue station (Chen, Fig.6, step-s611 [0089], where upon determining no matching data found failure message is sent to the server 18 and alternately print job is processed which means request has been accepted), the use data being based on the filling information for the particular venue station and usable to charge a fee for acting on the network request (Chen, Fig.6, [0094], where accounting software contained within hotel server calculate the charge for printing operation and bill the guest accordingly using above discussed identification information).

Chen however is silent on disclosing explicitly, "port address being a port of hub or router".

Yoshimura however discloses, "port address being a port of hub or router" (Yoshimura, Fig.6, [0158], where users can be identified by port address of the VPN router they connected to).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Yoshimura "port address being a port of the hub or router" with the teachings of Chen in order to provide a control program on a data center managing server creates a VLAN configuration table

so as to allocate a user-dedicated VLAN including plural network switches for each user company, thereby configuring the ports of a load balancer and network switches allocated to a user to the user-dedicated VLAN.

5. As to claims 7,18,29,34, Cherry discloses, receiving a print request routed through a network infrastructure (Chen, Fig.6, [0087],where printing process is shown on hotel network infrastructure), the request being received from one of a plurality of authorized venue stations connected to the network infrastructure (Chen, Fig.6, [0089], where determination is made if the requested venue is an authorized venue) ;

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6. As to claim 3, Chen and Yoshimura disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 1, including, wherein the acts of communicating and accepting are performed by the network device (Chen, Fig.5, Step-s501, where hotel server is a network device and accepts or rejects the originated requests from clients or venue stations).

7. As to claims 9, Chen and Yoshimura disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 7, including, wherein the acts of receiving, communicating, and determining are all performed by a printing device responsible for acting on the print request (Chen, Fig.4, element-22, where printer interface shares the same system bus along with key reader and network interface).

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responses, to fully consider the references in its entirety as potentially teaching of all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tauqir Hussain whose telephone number is 571-270-1247. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571 272 3913. The fax phone

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11/30/2007

